

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02  
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P R 300607Z SEP 77  
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INFO AMCONSUL ADANA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMCONSUL IZMIR  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USEEC  
USIAC  
USOEC  
USIA FOR IEU, IOP, IOP/M, IBS/PN: TRUKISH SERVICE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, IMF, IBRD, TU  
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC EMBARGO ALLEGATIONS RENEWED IN DIFFERENT FORM

REF: A) ANKARA 7096, B) ANKARA 7164, C) STATE 232969

1. PRESS COMMENT ON SEPT. 28 CONCERNING TURKISH EFFORTS  
TO OBTAIN FOREIGN CREDITS HIGHLIGHTED TWO NEW ELABORATIONS  
ON ECONOMIC EMBARGO THEME. MOST NOVEL TWIST WAS ALLEGATION  
THAT "U.S. DIPLOMATS" HAD PROPOSED THE ECONOMIC STABILIZATION  
MEASURES RECENTLY ADOPTED BY TURKEY, AND THEREFORE U.S.  
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SHOULD BAIL TURKEY OUT OF ITS FOREIGN CREDIT PROBLEM. IN  
ADDITION, U.S.-TURKISH DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CYPRUS PROBLEM AT  
SAME TIME THAT TURKISH OFFICIALS ARE SEEKING FOREIGN LOANS  
IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK WERE CITED AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF  
ALLEGED U.S. GOVERNMENT'S INSISTENCE UPON TYING POLITICAL  
CONDITIONS TO LOANS FOR TURKEY.

2. EDITOR-IN-CHIEF GUNERI CIVAOGU'S DAILY COLUMN IN "TERCUMAN" (461,000-CONSERVATIVE) NOTES THAT U.S. DIPLOMATS CLAIM ONLY REASON FOR TURKEY'S CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING FOREIGN CREDIT ARE PURELY ECONOMIC. HE WRITES THAT NOW THAT TURKEY HAS UNDERGONE A PAINFUL OPERATION TO GET IT BACK ON ITS FEET THROUGH ECONOMIC STABILIZATION MEASURES, ITS FRIENDS SHOULD SUPPORT IT DURING CONVALESCENCE PERIOD. ALLEGING THAT THESE MEASURES WERE PROPOSED BY U.S. DIPLOMATS, HE ASSERTS THAT RESPONSIBILITY NOW RESTS WITH U.S. COMMERCIAL BANKS AND "U.S.-INFLUENCED" IMF TO FIND ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS THAT WILL GIVE GREEN LIGHT TO OTHER BANKS. CIVAOGU CONCLUDES THAT IF U.S. BANKS AND IMF WOULD "TAKE POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS TURKEY", THIS WOULD REFUTE CHARGES OF ECONOMIC EMBARGO AND STOP THE COOLING OF U.S.-TURKEY RELATIONS DUE TO ARMS EMBARGO.

3. ABDI IPEKCI'S COLUMN IN "MILLIYET" (261,000-LIBERAL) ELABORATES UPON HIS COLUMN OF PREVIOUS DAY (DESCRIBED IN REFTEL B) CONCERNING ECONOMIC EMBARGO. HE DRAWS A LINK BETWEEN CURRENT U.S.-TURKEY DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CYPRUS AND TURKEY'S EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FOREIGN CREDIT IN BOTH WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK, ON BASIS THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS ARE OCCURRING IN U.S. AT APPROXIMATELY SAME TIME. HE CONCLUDES, "IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE DECISION TO GRANT TURKEY THE CREDITS IT EXPECTS WILL DEPEND NOT ONLY ON ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS BUT ALSO UPON POLITICAL BARGAINING." IPEKCI PREDICTS THAT THIS WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BRING TURKEY'S COALLITION GOVERNMENT TO A "CRITICAL POINT," BECAUSE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ERBAKAN IS NOT LIKELY TO APPROVE OF THE MEASURES WHICH WILL BE NECESSARY TO LIFT A MILITARY AND ECONOMIC EMBARGO FROM TURKEY.

4. COMMENT. DESPITE ATTEMPT OF GOT FINANCE MINISTER BILGEHAN TO LAY "ECONOMIC EMBARGO" THEORY TO REST (REF A), TWO LEADING TURKISH NEWSPAPERS HAVE RESURRECTED THE THESIS AND ADDED NEW LIFE TO IT. BOTH ARTICLES RESTATE THE CHARGE THAT USG CONTROLS FLOW OF CREDITS TO TURKEY. ONE ADDS NEW TWIST TO THE EMBARGO THEORY, BY ALLEGING THAT US DIPLOMATS HAVE PRESCRIBED TURKISH ECONOMIC STABILIZATION MEASURES AND SHOULD THEREFORE PRODUCE CREDITS FROM BANKS AND THE "US-INFLUENCED" IMF. US IS THUS BEING SPECIFICALLY CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR GETTING TURKEY OUT OF ITS PRESENT FIX. "TERCUMAN" COLUMN IS INTERESTING BECAUSE THIS LEADING PRO-GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER IS GIVING CREDENCE TO ECONOMIC EMBARGO THEORY ONLY FIVE DAYS AFTER PUBLISHING AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW IN WHICH MINISTER BILGEHAN DENIED ITS EXISTENCE.  
DILLON

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